

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF MISSISSIPPI  
EASTERN DIVISION**

**SHAUNTELL M. SUMMERALL, #R6322**

**PLAINTIFF**

**versus**

**CIVIL ACTION NO. 4:08-cv-32-HTW-LRA**

**UNKNOWN THRIFT, et al.**

**DEFENDANTS**

**MEMORANDUM OPINION AND ORDER**

This cause comes before this Court *sua sponte* for consideration of dismissal. On July 16, 2008, an order [4] was entered denying the prisoner Plaintiff's request to proceed *in forma pauperis* pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(g)<sup>1</sup> and requiring Plaintiff to pay the full filing fee, within twenty days. The Plaintiff was warned that his failure to pay the filing fee in a timely manner would result in the dismissal of this case without further written notice. Plaintiff failed to comply with this order.

On September 3, 2008, the Court entered an order [5] directing the Plaintiff to show cause why this case should not be dismissed for his failure to comply with the Court's order of July 16, 2008. In addition, Plaintiff was ordered to comply with this Court's previous order by paying the required filing fee of \$350.00, on or before September 17, 2008. The Plaintiff was explicitly warned that if the Court did not receive payment of the filing fee, this

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<sup>1</sup> "In no event shall a prisoner bring a civil action or appeal a judgment in a civil action or proceeding under this section if the prisoner has, on 3 or more prior occasions, while incarcerated or detained in any facility brought an action or appeal in a court of the United States that was dismissed on the grounds that it is frivolous, malicious, or fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted, unless the prisoner is under imminent danger of serious physical injury."

case would be dismissed without further notice to the Plaintiff. The Plaintiff has not complied with the Court's show cause order.

On October 20, 2008, a final order [8] to show cause was entered. Plaintiff was directed to show cause, on or before November 4, 2008, why this case should not be dismissed for his failure to comply with the Court's orders of July 16, 2008 and September 3, 2008. In addition, Plaintiff was directed to comply with the Court's orders by paying the required filing fee on or before November 4, 2008. This final show cause order also warned Plaintiff that failure to timely comply with the requirements of the order would lead to the dismissal of his complaint, without further notice. Plaintiff has not complied with the Court's final show cause order.

Since the Plaintiff has failed to pay the filing fee, thereby failing to comply with three court orders, this case will be dismissed. This Court has the authority to dismiss an action for the Plaintiff's failure to prosecute under Fed.R.Civ.P.41(b) and under its inherent authority to dismiss the action *sua sponte*. See *Link v. Wabash R.R.*, 370 U.S. 626, 629 (1962); *Larson v. Scott*, 157 F.3d 1030, 1031 (5th Cir. 1998); *McCullough v. Lynaugh*, 835 F.2d 1126 (5th Cir. 1988). The Court must be able to clear its calendars of cases that remain dormant because of the inaction or dilatoriness of the parties seeking relief, so as to achieve the orderly and expeditious disposition of cases. *Link*, 370 U.S. at 630. Such a "sanction is necessary in order to prevent undue delays in the disposition of pending cases and to avoid congestion in the calendars" of the Court. *Id.* at 629-30.

The Plaintiff has not complied with three court orders, nor has he contacted this Court

since September 24, 2008. The Court concludes that dismissal of this action for Plaintiff's failure to prosecute under Fed.R.Civ.P.41(b) is proper. Since the Defendants have never been called upon to respond to the Plaintiff's pleading, and have never appeared in this action, and since the Court has never considered the merits of Plaintiff's claims, the Court's order of dismissal will provide that dismissal is without prejudice. *See Munday/Elkins Auto. Partners, LTD. v. Smith*, No. 05-31009, 2006 WL 2852389, at \*2 (5th Cir. Oct. 2, 2006).

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the Plaintiff's complaint shall be dismissed without prejudice. A Final Judgment in accordance with this Memorandum Opinion and Order will be entered.

This the 20<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2008.

s/ HENRY T. WINGATE  
CHIEF UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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